

The Saltshaker



The Pastor's Daughter's Heart

December 2024

Follow the Candy Cane Road...

As the stores kick off the Christmas season, it's always fun for my mother and sister and I to go look at the 'New' Christmas decorations and goodies that cover the shelves (nowadays you can do this as early as Nov 1st). One holiday product we can all count on being continued year after year is the simple box of Red and White striped Candy Canes. Yes, other colors and knock offs have come and gone throughout the years, but the traditional pattern we all know and revert to remains a constant staple year after year. If only the stores knew what I'm about to share with you... but shhhhhh it's a secret!

Although a simple and naïve little candy, the bold message it portrays can change someone's life forever! Most of you probably know that if you flip the candy upside down and turn the little hook around (ok I'm done rhyming) it becomes a J! When I asked my AWANA kids what they thought that stood for, of course they all knew the answer, JESUS! They shouted! Yes, the Candy Cane is a J shape for Jesus. Jesus is the savior of the world! He didn't just show up as a superhuman, but came to earth as a little baby, but his name was known before he was born. Matt 1:21 "*She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.*" the angel told Joseph.

Now turn that J upside down and you have a Shepherd's Crook, the staff they used to care for, protect, and lead their sheep. The shepherds were the lowest in society, but the night Jesus was born, they had the honor of being some of the first people to meet Jesus, the new king. Jesus would come as a humble baby, but would grow up to become the Good Shepherd, who would lay down his life for his sheep (John 10:11).

Traditional colors of the Candy Cane are Red and White, and the stripes descend as 1 thick red, 1 thick white, and 3 little red/white stripes. You see, the three little red stripes remind me that my sin separates me from God. According to the bible, I'm not the only sinner; we are all sinners! (Rom 3:23) White shows that only Jesus is pure and holy, and the little white stripes mean only he could take the punishment and stand in the gap for all our sins, because he was sinless. "*God made him who had no sin, to be sin*"...2 Cor 5:21a. Red reminds us of the sacrifice he made, shedding his blood... "*for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*" 2 Cor 5:21b. While we are sinners we can never be 'together' with God, but Jesus' singular gift of his life for our sins, covers all who believe in him under his blood (the big, red stripe), washing us of our sins and making us pure and righteous so we can be with God (the big, white stripe) (Is 53:5).

BUT that's not all folks! This Candy Cane story might make sense to you, but it isn't just for us who believe. You see this Candy Cane story is meant to be a gift, just as you were once taught about the reason Jesus came to earth, so you need to gift it on to the next person. Because the Candy Cane is only half the story, put two together, hook to hook and you will get a heart, which is the **WHOLE REASON JESUS CAME TO EARTH IN THE FIRST PLACE!** He loves us and God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit = 3 red stripes) couldn't bear to let us remain in darkness.

"God so loved the world, He sent his only Son, that whoever believes in Him would not perish, but have eternal life."
Jn 3:16.

So now you're in on the secret too, but honestly, between you and me, do you really think the Candy Cane story should remain a secret? No? Well what are you waiting for? Put this newsletter down and head to the store to get your traditional box of Candy Canes and get to spreading the Christmas Cheer while you share the Candy Cane's secret with those still needing its message. And don't worry about Wal-Mart finding out, God's way ahead of their Christmas cancel culture already :) Merry Christmas! Stephanie Lamm

Jingle &
MINGLE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

*Women's Christmas
Potluck/Party*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, 6:00PM
**BRING A WRAPPED GIFT
AND A FOOD DISH!**

SENIOR ADULTS

Merry
**CHRISTMAS
PARTY**

**7
DEC**

**POTLUCK LUNCHEON &
GIFT EXCHANGE
12:00PM**

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**Delta First
Baptist Church**

**CHRISTMAS
KIDS PARTY**

DEC 7th AT 10:00AM
All Children ages Birth through
Middle School
Sponsored by the
Karen Baptist Fellowship
Bring a wrapped gift for a kid!

**YOUNG
SINGLES**

**YOUNG
MARRIEDS**

18 THRU 49

CHRISTMAS PARTY
DECEMBER
SUNDAY 8th 5:30PM

GIFT EXCHANGE & PIZZA PARTY

COST IS \$5 PER PERSON, CHURCH LIBRARY

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Merry Christmas

The Karen Baptist Fellowship

INVITES EVERYONE TO OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

Potluck starts @ Noon
Celebration will follow

PLEASE COME!



**CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLE LIGHT
SERVICE**

DECEMBER 24TH

DELTA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

5:00PM | COMMUNION

1250 PIONEER RD., 970-874-3847

COME & WORSHIP

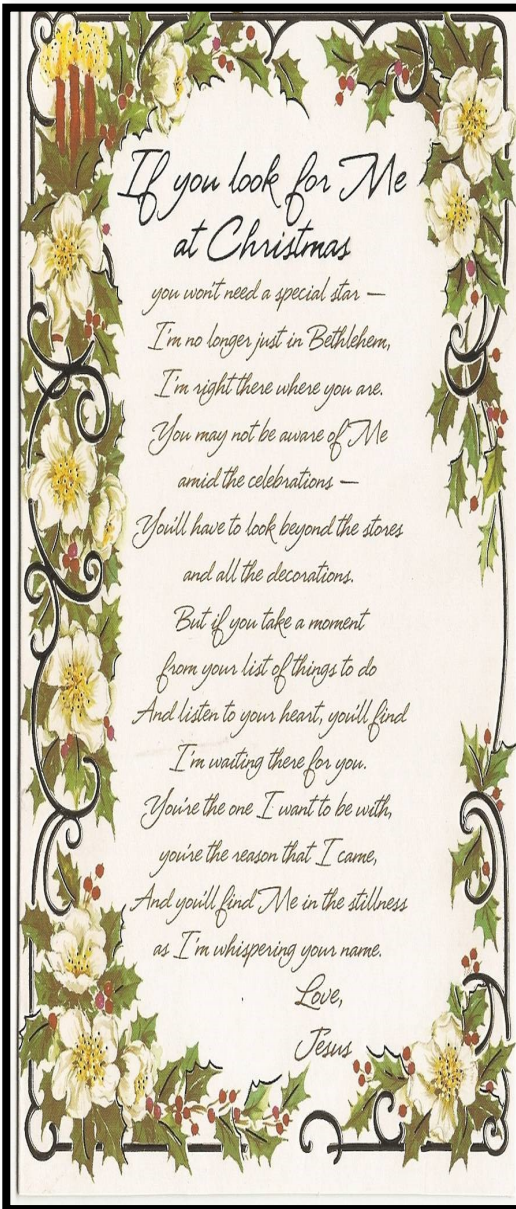


We have 23 kids for Angel Tree this year. We need to have these gifts returned by Sunday December 15th. Please pray for your Angel(s), parents and caregivers. It is a tough time of year.



Mission Moment for December is Retired Ministers & Missionaries

We all remember the pastor or missionary who made a difference in our lives. The ones who were with us in the big and small moments. With leadership, listening, wisdom, condolence or just the right prayer when needed most, their selfless service had a lasting effect. The RMMO is a way to give back with a Thank You check to help them with their needs. Please bless them as you have been blessed.



Birthdays

Anniversaries

- 2 Lori Manzanares
- 3 Kathie Herby
- 5 Diana Hipol
- 5 Jack Skelton
- 8 Ma Lay Htoo
- 8 Hannah Conley
- 9 Kenny Durant
- 10 Kristine Giron
- 10 Donna Hubbard
- 10 Paw Khu
- 10 Don Monter
- 10 Bob Owens
- 11 Lloyd Carothers
- 12 Kru Htoo
- 14 Nay Kaw Mu Thaw (Dah)
- 15 Renee McRay
- 19 Thaddeus Conley
- 19 Melvin Randall
- 20 Marla Florence
- 21 Eh Nah Htoo Key Paw
- 22 Thaddeus Fritzsche
- 22 Say Moo Paw
- 25 Billy Harper
- 26 Cheryl Laws
- 27 Eliya Winter Sen Kaw Htoo
- 28 Shasta Ingram
- 28 Davey Schmidt
- 30 Izaya Manzanares
- 31 Dawn Fondy

- Per Kaw & Paw Re 5
- Stephen & Say Moo Wright 7
- Don & Trish Wilkerson 17
- Howard & Lynette Wilson 18



Christmas
FOOD DRIVE

SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER, FEED THOSE IN NEED
DONATE NOW

FROM DEC. 1ST TO DEC 19TH IN CHURCH LOBBY
THE DIACONATE WILL DELIVER ON DEC. 21ST

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Calvary Baptist Church Presents
SCROOGE
The Musical

Free Admission

Friday December 13th 6:00 pm
Saturday December 14th 6:00 pm
Sunday December 15th 2:30 pm
1290 A St Delta 970-874-9497

YOUTH PARTY

Christmas Gift Exchange
Food/Fun/Devotional

17th
DEC, 2024 **BRING YOUR FRIENDS!** **6 - 8**
P.M P.M

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NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

BOARD

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH-GYM

6PM to 10PM

GAME Night

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

BRING YOUR FAVORITE FINGER FOOD AND YOUR FAVORITE BOARD GAME!
(NON-ALCOHOLIC DRINKS & TABLEWARE WILL BE SUPPLIED)

YOUR HOST ARE: PASTOR JAMES & VICKI CONLEY
970-874-3847

Jesus' Story Matthew 1:18 –2:12

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about^[a]: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet^[b] did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,^[c] because he will save his people from their sins."²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"^[d] (which means "God with us").²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

The Magi Visit the Messiah

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi^[e] from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel."^[f]

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The Birth of Jesus Luke 2:1-20

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while^[a] Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven. and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.²¹ On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

Delta First
Baptist Church
1250 Pioneer Road
Delta, CO 81416

DECEMBER



Address Service Requested

Sunday School Classes and Adult Family Groups start at 11:15AM

Room 110, Leta Duran	Children (K-5th Grade)
Room 201, Josh Vigil	Adult Class
Room 207, Steve Grover	Adult Family Group
Room 111, Scott & Mary Fritzsche	Middle School
Room 208, Mike & Sherry Burns	High School

**Delta First Baptist Church
1250 Pioneer Road, Delta, CO 81416
Phone 970-874-3847
E-Mail: deltafbc@yahoo.com
Pastor James Conley
Youth Director: Thaddeus Conley
Office Hours:
Tuesday-Thursday 8:30AM—2:00PM
Website: firstbaptistchurchdelta.com**